

11-11-1889

Ida to Sis, November 11, [1889]

Ida Honoré Grant

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1889
November 11th
Schmiedgasse 4 - 1st Stock

Dear Sir,

Your glass ware, 2 doz. cups &
saucers, 2 doz. plates & 1 doz
Champagnes = 1 lamp - will be
shipped ~~but~~ in a very few days,
as we were there today, and for
the order for all to be packed.

With the money you sent from
London, I got the piece of
silver, which was 300 fls (and
which they would not pay was
200 years old, but which I
had them put down as old
"Cuvio") - And three of the

Walters with tiles, in bottom, also
a very pretty little set for early
breakfast, which I thought very
nice from the large China
store, & which I thought you
would use in your room, or in
the spare bed-room. You
must have breakfast in your
room, tis such a luxury, I do
it now, running in to the chil-
dren's room with them - I do
hope you will like the set -
Having the money left over, I
had a great time trying to
decide just how I should spend
it for you and really wanted
to get one of the little tables

Which you remember they have 20 complete and
^{for afternoon tea or early breakfast}
one, but they cost too much, the really good
and pretty ones, so I compromised on the very
cuttest of the little sets I could get, the wooden
and the small pitcher, which matches the
champagne, glad to put in some more of that
ware which I think is so pretty. I then took
the liberty of putting in the toy, the little
trifles which may pass as Christmas commodities
I gave for Ma, which has some orchids well
painted on it and a fan for your mother -
(or one I believe)

Green one - They are both done by a very
good artist here, "Hester" who has a reputation
for that sort of thing - I also, put in 8 little
cups for after dinner coffee for Aunt Sam,
as they are delicate and quite dainty and 8 more
which I wish you would send to Aunt
Mat with my love. I don't her address - I
remember that Aunt Sam only dines 8 at
one time - I want for to let you know
what the duties on these last mentioned
articles which I sent, amount to, so I can
pay it, as I have no desire to give presents

5th

upon which I then will have
to pay duties, besides I really
want to form an idea as to
what the duties would be, on
such things - I hope you will
like your glass - were I feared
that the ~~Miners~~ in Greenwich
were not as pretty as the plates
but the man almost went wild
when I suggested such a
thing, brought out the ones
he had shown you, and they
really did seem just alike -

I went today for the first
time to get some things of Mrs.
Coll, as I don't want to be
caught without a winter suit

Though so far I have not
needed one. I have just about
decided on the dark green &
same close fitting shaped
^{with long back & hair at side.}
Coat for Mrs Mac Try, to be made
up with my fur. As I have
the carriage lined with blue
and a blue liveries, I thought
a little whiff of blue for myself
but think that particular
shade of green especially pretty
with my fur so well suited to
that. The whole dress and
handsome long outer gar-
ment will be 300 fls or 180
about \$120. or less - I have
found a perfectly splendid grey

French dressmaker who runs every thing
is awfully stylish and full of artistic taste
who has fixed over my black net made a
new waist as it was so becoming, ^{through an hole} and also, the
White Brocade with soft lace front, (the lace that
was on the summer dress with crepe lining) she has
made it fit beautifully as it never did, and given
the collar high lace, and all such a lovely set.
I think she fits better than Prescott, and is of
course rarer, and reasonable - in her prices
she is now giving up the black with pink feathers
and tamping. When her put a train that
traces behind, on the pink satin, which I
have never had occasion to wear since I had
the tulle taken off and Rick Mason put on
and bade with the gutty beads - she is just the
person to fix up my things comfortably, and
I am delighted - She was perfectly overwhelmed
with delight and so was I a few days ago, when
I tried on the elegant and very beautiful helio
Tropes dress. She remarked that I must have
made it from Paris, as it was the latest
color and a new style she had not seen there

9th -
And you may imagine her
surprise when I told it was
made in New York last winter

I could not possibly find as
has made anything of course,
There would be more elegant
or prettier than this suit and
I am keeping it to wear
when the Duc de Nemours, Comte
de Gouze, takes me to call on
Comtesse Goiz and Comte
Clair - and the other nobles -
Arcele wanted me to have a
heliotrope cloth for my fur
but I told him I had a matching
suit that color - I am having
the bonnet changed a little -

With heliotrope Gipsy on the
front and strings - You will
be amused to hear that I have
been wearing already, in taking
Mrs Chew & Mrs Hein to Antwerp
Avenue, the French Red velvet
with out or headed trimming
It looks lovely here - I find
the few that I have seen
at dinner, dress very simply
with rather tight necks and
much plainer than New York
style - I will keep the yellow
brocade for first grand oc-
casion. The dressing at
Opera too, is so much sim-
pler, in fact of every kind of
life, simplicity is the style.

You see we have been trying to keep up some
the most bustling tearing extravagance in
N.Y. - I do not know that my home life is so
especially quiet, as Americans are always living
just now, we have a letter from Charlie Faneau
introducing his particular friends, Chismasseros
^{now are the Chismasseros.}
for whom he asks that we will do what we can
as particular favor to him, just as the Prestons
come from Mr. Drexel - We can do a certain
amount, invite them to dinner etc, but as to
presenting them to the unimpaired foreigners that

is simply out of the question and unheard of here.
Lady Paget has the whole English Colony of
Vienna in a rage, because she won't admit any
one but of certain rank to the Embassy, much
less would she ask other people's countrymen
We hear all these things; and I understand
she is generally very acrimony and disagreeable,
but she has been anything but that to us. This
is certainly a singular phase of social life but
it happens to be to our taste and we feel, that
for some reason we have been treated very
well - Our attaches and others do a wonder
but amount of prying into what I cannot
enter, but the fact is, they do not receive the same

Courtesy that we do and we
can't explain it to them, ^{position is better} ~~that~~ ^{ours}

How perfectly grand and magnificent your reception must
have been in every detail. The
new diamonds I think must be
lovely too - I intended to see them
and from picture by Sargent
but missed both. Did you
like the latter? Write me about
it and what became of the one
of Jo - by Healy - I am so
sorry to hear about B. Jones espe-
cially as it will interfere with
Betsy's new house, which seems
always urgent, but must be.
One child some times gets

more than the others and be-
cause he or she is most im-
portant - You must read me
very account of your social
affairs + I think look back
a good deal of the Spauldings
Still don't you? I wish that
you would see how happy and con-
tented Mary is and little
William himself. It annoys me
to see all the young stupid folk
go with pleasure girls and
spend money, and our brothers
still unmarried - Chew is an
excellent clerk, having been for
years a bred in the State Dept. He
won't a cent to his name but his
1800 a year, but all the Orin's
family are trying to make him and
their daughter happy by joining them